

### Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims 8-21 and 26-29, as follows:

1. (previously presented) A nucleotide sequence comprising, a regulatory region selected from the group consisting of *cbh1*, *cbh2*, *eg1*, *eg2*, *eg3*, *eg5*, *xln1*, and *xln2*, in operative association with a xylanase secretion sequence and a gene of interest encoding a protein selected from the group consisting of a mannanase, a laccase, an endoglucanase, and a cellobiohydrolase.
- 2.-3. (cancelled)
4. (original) The nucleotide sequence of claim 1 further comprising a terminator sequence.
5. (previously presented) The nucleotide sequence of claim 1 further comprising a selectable marker.
6. (original) The nucleotide sequence of claim 1 further comprising an intervening sequence.
7. (previously presented) A vector comprising the nucleotide sequence of claim 1.
8. (currently amended) A transformed filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus comprising the vector of claim 7.
9. (currently amended) A transformed filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus comprising the nucleotide sequence of claim 1.

10. (currently amended) The transformed filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus of claim 9, wherein the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus is selected from the group consisting of *Trichoderma*, *Humicola*, *Fusarium*, *Aspergillus*, *Mycogone*, *Verticillium*, *Colletotrichum*, *Neurospora*, *Botrytis*, *Pleurotus*, ~~*Penicillium*~~, *Penicillium*, *Cephalosporium*, *Myrothecium*, *Papulospora*, *Achlya*, *Podospora*, *Endothia*, *Mucor*, *Cochilobolus*, *Tolypocladium*, *Pyricularia*, *Penicillium*, *Myceliophthora*, *Irpex*, *Stachybotrys*, *Scorpulariopsis*, *Chaetomium*, *Gliocladium*, *Cephalosporin* and *Acremonium*.
11. (currently amended) The transformed filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus of claim 10, wherein the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus is *Trichoderma*.
12. (currently amended) The transformed filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus of claim 10, wherein the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus is *Humicola*.
13. (currently amended) A method of producing a protein of interest within a filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus comprising the steps of:
- i) transforming the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus with a nucleotide sequence comprising, a regulatory region selected from the group consisting of *cbh1*, *cbh2*, *eg1*, *eg2*, *eg3*, *eg5*, *xln1*, and *xln2*, in operative association with a xylanase secretion sequence and a gene of interest selected from the group consisting of mannanases, laccases, endoglucanases, and cellobiohydrolases;
  - ii) growing the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus, and
  - iii) causing the ~~fungi~~ fungus to produce the protein of interest.

14. (currently amended) A method of producing a protein of interest within a filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus comprising the steps of:

- i) transforming the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus with the nucleic acid sequence of claim 6;
- ii) growing the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus; and
- iii) causing the ~~fungi~~ fungus to produce the protein of interest.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein, in the step of transforming, the xylanase secretion sequence is heterologous with respect to the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein, in the step of transforming, the xylanase secretion sequence is homologous with respect to the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein, in the step of transforming, the xylanase secretion sequence is heterologous with respect to the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein, in the step of transforming, the xylanase secretion sequence is homologous with respect to the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, ~~wherein the step of causing the fungi to produce, further comprises~~ comprising purifying the protein of interest.

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 14, ~~wherein the step of causing the fungi to produce~~, further ~~comprises~~ comprising purifying the protein of interest.

21. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~14~~ 14, ~~wherein the step of causing the fungi to produce the protein of interest~~, further ~~comprises~~ comprising removing the amino acid sequence encoded by the intervening sequence from the protein of interest.

22-23. (cancelled)

24. (previously presented) The nucleotide sequence of claim 1, wherein the protein is selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -glucosidase, endogluconase II, mannanase, and laccase I.

25. (original) A vector comprising the isolated nucleotide sequence of claim 24.

26. (currently amended) A transformed filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus comprising the vector of claim 25.

27. (currently amended) A transformed filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus comprising the nucleotide sequence of claim 24.

28. (currently amended) A method of producing a protein of interest within a filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus comprising the steps of:

- i) transforming the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus with the vector of claim 25;
- ii) growing the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus; and
- iii) causing the ~~fungi~~ fungus to produce the protein.

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29. (currently amended) A method of producing a protein of interest within a filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus comprising the steps of:

- i) transforming the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus with the vector of claim 24;
- ii) growing the filamentous ~~fungi~~ fungus; and
- iii) causing the ~~fungi~~ fungus to produce the protein.

30 - 31. (cancelled)

32. (original) The nucleotide sequence of claim 1, wherein said xylanase secretion signal is a family 11 xylanase secretion signal.

33. (original) The nucleotide sequence of claim 1, wherein said xylanase secretion signal is a xylanase II secretion signal.